GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2838
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
ANNOUNCEMENT OF MSP BEFORE SOWING OF CROPS
MAHESHWAR SINGH;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the policy of announcing Minimum Support Price (MSP) before sowing of crops by farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): The main objectives of the Government`s price policy for agricultural produce are aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production, and to safeguard the interests of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices. The price policy seeks to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure in the perspective of the overall needs of the economy. Towards this end, Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (F.C.I. − paddy, wheat and coarse cereals), Jute Corporation of India(J.C.I. − Jute), Cotton Corporation of India (C.C.I. − Cotton), National Agricultural CooperativeMarketing Federation (NAFED-pulses and oilseeds) and Tobacco Board (Tobacco), besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. All necessary steps are taken to declare the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) at the earliest.